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## SPECIAL NURSING IN HOSPITALS

DEAR EDITOR: I have been a silent reader of your JOURNAL for many years. Recently I have been much interested in the letter on special nursing in hospitals, and would like to add my mite to the discussion.

I did private nursing for ten years and many times specialized in different eastern hospitals. I was always treated with every consideration and courtesy. Of course there were not always separate dressing rooms and sleeping rooms provided for us, but realizing the usual crowded condition of the ordinary hospital, I did not consider that a matter for criticism, and particularly on the part of the hospital management.

For the past three years I have been superintendent of a general hospital and think, I now see why specials are not always welcomed with open arms; some of my experiences having been unsatisfactory.

As a rule, when going through the corridors, I find the specials entertaining my pupil nurses, not only to the neglect of their own work but to the hindrance of the pupil as well. The specials do not appear to think that the rule of putting everything in its place in a clean and orderly condition applies, in the least, to them; glasses, spoons and appliances used in their work usually being left for the pupil nurses to attend to. Their telephone calls are sometimes so numerous as to almost necessitate an extra bell boy for their exclusive use, and last, but not least, one special nurse visited another patient's room and for some reason decided he needed an enema, which she proceeded to give, without any order whatever from the attending physician or permission from those in charge of the hospital.

There are two sides to all questions, and occasionally the specials may find that the fault lies with themselves. J.

*Mississippi.*

## "THE NURSING OF QUADRUPLETS"

DEAR EDITOR: Some time ago you noted the death, in March, 1913, of Virginia, the eldest of the quadruplets born in August, 1912, in Dorchester, Massachusetts. In May, 1913, Eleanor, the tiny one, died, probably of marasmus.

Barbara and Josephine are still thriving.

*Massachusetts.*

E. O. BOSWALL.

## HOW WE FED OUR TRIPLETS

DEAR EDITOR: The readers of the JOURNAL may be interested to learn of our method of feeding triplets.

On September 19, 1913, Mary Nicosia, Italian, 28 years of age, gave birth to boy triplets. These babies were born on our tenement service, and about twenty-four hours elapsed before we succeeded in getting mother and babies into the hospital. Before they were six hours old they were taken to the church to be christened.

Mother and babies were discharged on their thirty-fourth day in good condition. The mother being a very healthy woman was able to nurse the babies according to the schedule as worked out by our resident physician and head nurse, as follows: